Attorney Docket No. 24171-0111

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Howard Thomason

Serial No.:

09/898606

Divisional patent application of pending patent application serial no. 09/209,339

Filing Date:

Concurrently herewith

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

For:

METHODS OF PREPARING AND USING ELECTROSTATICALLY

TREATED FLUIDS

BOX PATENT APPLICATION Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified divisional application, please amend the aboveidentified divisional application as follows:

In the Specification

Please insert as the first paragraph, the following statement:

This is a divisional application of pending U.S. Patent Application S/N 09/209,339 filed December 11, 1998 which is a continuation-in-part application of parent U.S. Patent Application S/N 08/979,641 filed June 19, 1997, now abandoned.

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-9 without prejudice.